

# Top Attractions in Chişinău

## About Chişinău

The city of Chisinau is situated on seven hills arranged in the shape of a circle. Modern Chisinau was conceived by its designers as a garden city—a settlement where green spaces alternate with buildings, complementing and enhancing them. In such a city, people were meant to feel closer to nature, enjoying everything this notion implies: cool shade during the summer heat, fresh air, soothing greenery, and the morning songs of birds. For decades, green spaces have generously provided this comfort to city residents, becoming Chisinau's hallmark.

## Parks & Gardens

The green area of the municipality of Chisinau consists of 10 forest parks, 6 parks, 4 public gardens, and 31 squares. In total, they cover approximately 3500 hectares. Bellow are presented just few of them.

### "Ştefan cel Mare" Public Garden

The oldest green space not only in Chisinau but also in all of Moldova is the “Ştefan cel Mare” Public Garden, considered a monument of landscape architecture that has retained its charm to this day. The garden was established in 1818 on an area of 7 hectares. Located in the Ştefan cel Mare şi Sfânt Park in the center of Chisinau, the **Alley of the Classics** is among the main tourist attractions of the Moldovan capital. The sculptures line the alley on both sides, depicting important figures of Romanian literature from both Romania and the Republic of Moldova. The complex was built in 1958, initially featuring only 12 sculptures. Today, the Alley of the Classics includes 30 busts placed on red granite stones

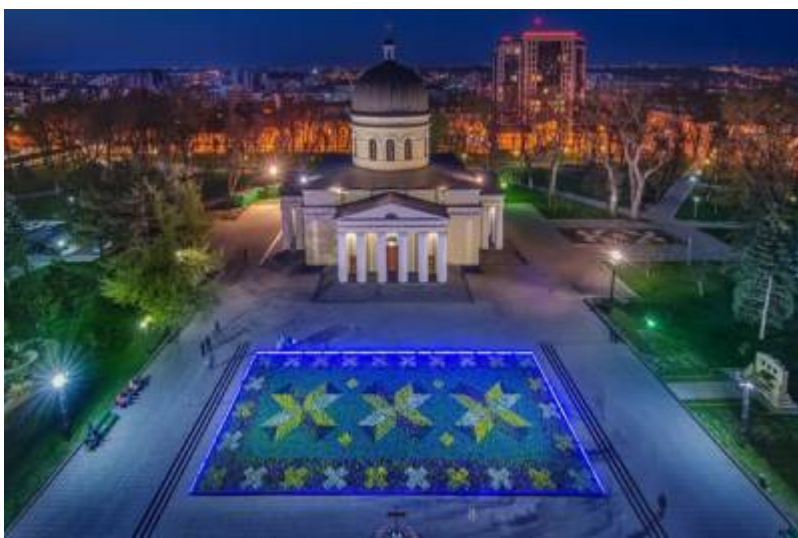




Location: Boulevard Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt

## The Cathedral Park

In the city center lies Cathedral Park. It was founded in 1836 on an area of 9 hectares. Eight straight alleys lead from as many entrances to the park towards the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ's Nativity, the Bell Tower, and the Holy Water Fountain, forming an expressive ensemble. This year, the park, like the Cathedral, celebrates its 172th anniversary. The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ's Nativity, located in Cathedral Park, doesn't look all that impressive from the outside. Built in the 1830s in the neoclassical style it has a turbulent history – the cathedral was destroyed during World War 2 and when Moldova was part of the USSR and religious services were prohibited the building was used as the exhibition center. Today the cathedral stands proudly in the heart of the capital, being in the center of all important events. Be sure to step inside – the interior is stunning, everything you could expect from the Orthodox church in Eastern Europe.





Location: Boulevard Ştefan cel Mare, 2 Catedrala

## The Dendrarium Park

The Dendrarium Park in Chisinau is an 83-hectare green oasis in the Buiucani sector. It serves as an important oxygen reservoir for all city residents and is a natural air filter. It is one of the most popular photography spots for city dwellers. The Dendrarium was placed under state protection on July 16, 1998. The park is a member of the International Association of Botanical Gardens for Environmental Conservation. The Dendrarium has an important seed bank of rare and highly decorative plants. This gene pool is represented by 1,820 taxa. It is significant that the park hosts 9 species of woody plants out of the 13 listed in the Red Book of the Republic of Moldova.







Location: Street Ion Creangă 1, Dendrarium

## The Mills Valley Park

Valea Morilor Park is located in the Buiucani sector of the capital. It was established in 1950 at the initiative of L. Brezhnev (First Secretary of the MSSR) and was initially named the "Central Park of Culture and Recreation of the Leninist Komsomol". The park is situated on the shore of Valea Morilor Lake and covers an area of 114 hectares, with the lake itself occupying 34 hectares. The park's design was developed under the guidance of the renowned architect Robert Kurz.

Within the park, there is an open-air summer theater, the Green Theater, with a capacity of 5,000 seats, a daytime cinema, the children's town "Andrieș," a beach, a boat station, and more. Over time, the park and its lake have served as a venue for various water sports. The park hosted three rowing schools. Sports fields and fishing spots for amateurs were also set up. In winter, a city skating rink was organized on the frozen lake. There was also a tower for parachute jumps.





Location: Str. Grigore Alexandrescu, Valea Morilor

## The Rose Valley Park

Valea Trandafirilor (Rose Valley). is a renowned park located in the Botanica sector. It spans an area of 145 hectares, of which 9 hectares belong to the lake. The park was established in 1968 on the site of a hill that locals had cultivated for many years with roses, from whose petals they made the famous Chisinau rose jam. This tradition continues to this day, with many special and fragrant species of roses planted in the park every year. This is how the park got its name – Valea Trandafirilor. **The Chisinau Zip Line** in Valea Trandafirilor Park is the first professional zip line in the Republic of Moldova. It is designed and constructed according to all necessary standards. Located in Valea Trandafirilor Park, it spans approximately 220 meters. The fact that it passes over one of the park's lakes adds an extra dose of adrenaline! The program is daily: 11:00-21:00. Price:5-6 Euro.







Location: Str. Valea Trandafirilor

## The Botanical Garden

The Botanical Garden in Chisinau of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova is the main research structure for botany in the Republic of Moldova. It is located on the outskirts of Chisinau, in the Botanica sector, near the so-called Gates of the City. It was established on September 1, 1951. The design and construction work of the Botanical Garden was carried out under the leadership of Academician A. Ciubotaru, who served as the director of this institution for more than 32 years. The construction of the Botanical Garden was based on the ecological-systematic principle, with the placement of plant groups in a landscape style, facilitating field orientation in the study of vegetation.



Location: Str. Pădurii 18, Gradina Botanica

## Technical University of Moldova Park

The dendrological park of the Technical University of Moldova (UTM) was conceived in 2004 at the initiative of Mr. Ion Bostan, who served as the rector of UTM from 1992 to 2015, as an open-air technical museum. Here, you can admire an impressive gallery of exhibits displayed outdoors: the UTM Stele - the symbol of technical education, the Thinker sculpture - a symbol of the creative thinking of human society, and pieces symbolizing the first inventions of humanity, such as lighting a

fire with a spark, up to the most modern and ingenious innovations.

Most of these were created or reconstructed by the students and professors of the University. Helicopters and trams from the last century can also be found here. One of the trams is quite unusual - pulled by two iron horses, bringing to mind the famous horse-drawn tram that ran on Chisinau's main street Alexandru cel Bun (now Ştefan cel Mare şi Sfânt Boulevard) in the 1930s-1940s.

In the middle of the park stands the unique fountain with steel sculptures of the 12 zodiac signs. Even some benches installed here are unique creations. They embody two intertwined universal symbols, the heart and infinity, and are nicknamed "The Lovers' Benches."



Location: Str. Studenţilor 9, Universitatea Tehnica din Chisinau

## Museums

### The Historical Museum

The National Museum of History of Moldova, located in the beautiful building in the center of Chisinau, is home to over 250.000 exhibits divided into a few sections: Ancient History and Archaeology, Medieval History, History of Basarabia, Contemporary History, Treasures. This is a great place to learn more about the country and its background as well as see some of the impressive artifacts from Moldova's past. At the entrance to the museum is the She-wolf with Romulus and Remus. Visiting hours: Every day from 10 am to 6 pm. Entrance fee: less than 1 Euro.





Location: 31 August 1989 Str. 121A

## The National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History

The history of the museum begins in 1889 when the Zemstva of Bessarabia organized the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, which laid the foundation for the establishment of the museum institution. It is the oldest museum in the Republic of Moldova. Founded as an Agricultural Museum, over the course of its existence, it gradually expanded its field of activity, creating collections that reflect natural history, contemporary nature, the evolution of human society, and traditional culture in Bessarabia, and later in the Republic of Moldova. At present, it holds a heritage of approximately 135 thousand pieces. Visiting hours: 10 am to 10 pm. Closed on Mondays. Entrance fee: less than 1 Euro.



Location: Str.Mihail Kogălniceanu 82

## Village Museum

Located at the entrance to the municipality of Chisinau, near the City Gates, the Village Museum can be considered an island of revelation and tranquility. It is the perfect place for meditation, where you are amazed by the fantastic landscape with a fairy-tale atmosphere. It was created in 1991 as a



branch of the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History, and in May 1995, it was inaugurated as the “Village Museum,” reflecting the Moldovan village of the 18th and 19th centuries. The museum hosts monuments of folk architecture.

The first monument placed at the museum, in 1995, was the windmill from the village of Opaci, Căuşeni district, which was destroyed in a fire in 2001 and has not been restored yet. At present, the museum complex boasts the oldest ecclesiastical monument in the Republic of Moldova, the wooden church brought from the village of Hirişeni, with the purpose of being restored and cared for. It was built in 1642 and is one of the tallest wooden churches in the country, with a height of 27 meters.



Location: Str. Aeroportului, Muzeul Satului

## The Museum of Computing Technology

Very few people knew that there is a museum of computing technology in Chişinău, located within the Vladimir Andrunachievici Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, USM. It is small, but it boasts a rare and original collection of over 220 diverse technical exhibits, ranging from mechanical arithmometers to Apple technologies. The exhibits are restored by the museum's owner, Ivanov Andrei. Thanks to his careful attention, many of these items are in good condition, working as if they were bought from the store yesterday. The desire to learn everything from the roots was the reason for assembling the first second-generation computer. A collection of three computers from different generations grew and transformed into a museum. Visits are possible on weekends as well. For more details, please visit the museum's website.



Location: Str.Academy 5, Muzeul Tehnicii de Calcul

## Water park

### Vara Vara Aquacity

We are proud of a wave pool up to two meters high. A mile and a half of high-speed tracks and a slides with the height of an 8 floor building await you. All are built to the highest safety standards by the world leader in the segment of water amusement parks - POLIN WATERPARKS. We also have a separate seating area with a pool of almost 900m2 and 4 jacuzzis with whirlpool. In the children's entertainment area, you will find one of the largest children's pools in Europe, of almost 1000m2. The youngest visitors will enjoy a recreation area with 13 slides and 7 entertainment attractions. Older children will be captivated by the activities of a playground with 5 slides, water cannons and a huge overturned bucket. You will be able to enjoy Asian, European and Greek cuisine, fast food and a bar. For those who prefer privacy, there are separate VIP tents and a celebration room. Also, you can order gastronomic delights from a special menu for children. Let's live the summer with Vara Vara.





Location: Str. Mihai Sadoveanu 42/2, Vara Vara

## Top wineries in Moldova

The Republic of Moldova prides itself on having some of the richest vineyards, with viticulture being a well-developed sector in the business market. Meanwhile, Moldovan wines are internationally recognized as some of the most aromatic, winning gold, silver, and bronze medals at international competitions. Here are few of wineries from our selection of 30 [wineries](#).

### The Cricova Winery

[The Cricova Winery](#) represents a unique underground complex, renowned and appreciated worldwide for its extensive labyrinths and exceptional wines. The underground cellars of Cricova are a true treasure of the national cultural heritage and one of the main tourist attractions in Chişinău, Republic of Moldova. The underground city, with its 120 kilometers of tunnels, is visited annually by over 50,000 tourists from all corners of the world. It can be visited through a guided tour or events such as the Sparkling Party, Must Fest, or Underland Wine Fest.



### The Purcari Winery

As the oldest of the wineries in Moldova, [Purcari Winery](#) is the only place in Moldova where the favorite wine of royal families is served, boasting a rich history of producing the highest quality

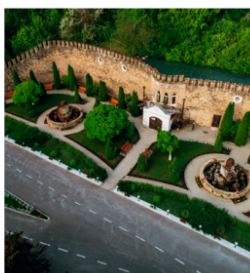


Purcari Red and Black wines. In 1827, Emperor of Russia Nicholas I issued a special decree granting Purcari the status of the first specialized winery in Bessarabia. It was named in honor of one of the founders originating from Germany – Harmizone. Since then, the owners of Purcari have become Moldovan boyars (barons) Dancila and Clot, but also other Germans, Russians and French. Located in the village of Purcari, this winery is renowned for its great wines that pair with delightful gastronomic experiences. The Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain's collection from 1987 or the vintage wines from 1948 are just a few of the treasures hidden in the cellars of Purcari Winery.



## The Mileștii Mici Winery

Among the wineries in Moldova, [Mileștii Mici](#) boasts the largest underground wine gallery. These underground galleries at Mileștii Mici have even been included in the Guinness Book of Records for their grandeur. Of the more than 200 kilometers of tunnels carved into limestone, 55 kilometers are used to store over 2 million bottles of wine, also setting records for the largest wine collection in the world. The Mileștii Mici winery is visited annually by over 25,000 tourists.



## The Mimi Castel Winery

The [Mimi Castel](#) is currently one of the main tourist attractions in the Republic of Moldova, being included in the top 15 most beautiful wineries in the world. Annually, over 30,000 visitors from more than 80 countries admire the complex's modern architecture and stroll through the secret cellars of Constantin Mimi, learn about the history of winemaking in Moldova, discover local customs, and fall in love with traditional dishes prepared according to recipes inherited from ancestors and reinvented by skilled culinary masters. Castel Mimi represents one of the showcases of winemaking heritage in the

Republic of Moldova. Castel Mimi is a sixth-generation family business and was included in the top 15 most beautiful chateaux in the world by Winerist, a wine and food travel marketplace. In 2022, the winery was named “The Visiting Card of the Republic of Moldova” at the [Wine Travel Awards](#) in London, Great Britain. On June 1, 2023, the Republic of Moldova hosted the European Political Community Summit, the largest foreign policy event in our country's history. For the first time, the summit brought together 50 presidents, prime ministers, and high-ranking European officials who sought common solutions for Europe's most urgent issues, such as security, stability, and energy resilience.



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